

Message Text

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SUBJ: VISIT TO BELGRADE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH,
THEODORE COOPER

SUMMARY: IN VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF
HEALTH REITERATED AND CONFIRMED THAT NO MAJOR INFUSION OF
U.S. DOLLARS IS LIKELY TO SUPPLEMENT NOW COMMITTED EXCESS
CURRENCY FUNDS. YUGOSLAVS APPEARED TO ACCEPT THAT FUTURE
COOPERATION WOULD BE ON BASIS OF EQUALITY AND MUTUAL BENEFIT
WITH EACH SIDE, AS A RULE, SUPPORTING ITS ACTIVITIES. END
SUMMARY.

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH COOPER WITH OIH HEAD
EHRlich AND FISCHER OF OIH VISITED BELGRADE SEP 18-22
TO DISCUSS FUTURE COOPERATION IN HEALTH. HE RECEIVED A
WARM WELCOME AND MET WITH THE HEADS OF THE FEDERAL COMMITTEE
FOR HEALTH ZORA TOMIC AND FAISECTC KRSTO BULAJIC. EMBASSY
GUIDANCE CONFORMED WITH THE INTENTIONS OF THE COOPER PARTY.
SPECIFICALLY, WE ADVISED COOPER TO TAKE A BUSINESS-AS-NORMAL
ATTITUDE AND NOT TO PROPOSE ANY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR
YUGOSLAVIA BEYOND WHAT EXISTED FOR OTHER COUNTRIES.

2. FROM EMBASSY VIEW, COOPER MADE USEFUL CONTRIBUTION BY
REITERATING AND PROVIDING HIGH LEVEL CONFIRMATION THAT THERE
WOULD BE NO LARGE INFUSION OF U.S.-DOLLAR FUNDS TO SUPPORT
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN YUGOSLAVIA AND BY DESCRIBING ALTERNATE
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 06342 280959Z

MECHANISMS OF SUPPORT. (HEW IS LARGEST US PARTICIPANT IN

BILATERAL PROGRAM). GIVEN THE NON-AVAILABILITY OF US-OWNED EXCESS DINARS AND THE DECLINING RESOURCES OF THE US-YUGOSLAV JOINT FUND, BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS WOULD BE NEEDED TO ASSURE THE CONTINUATION AND STRENGTHENING OF CLOSE RELATIONS IN HEALTH. THESE MECHANISMS MUST BE BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUALITY AND MUTUAL BENEFITS. EACH SIDE WOULD SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES AND PARTICIPATION OF ITS SCIENTISTS UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIALLY AGREED.

3. THE YUGOSLAVS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SENDING EXPERTS TO THE U.S. TO DISCUSS COOPERATION IN THREE FIELDS: (A) FOOD AND DRUGS REGULATION; (B) COMMUNICABLE DISEASES; AND (C) EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE. DR. COOPER WELCOMED THIS INITIATIVE WHICH THE YUGOSLAVS SAID WOULD BE PART OF A LARGER VISIT OF EXPERTS PLANNED FOR LATE OCTOBER TO DISCUSS COOPERATION IN THE POST-EXCESS CURRENCY PERIOD.
SWEITZER

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